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The Oregon State Biologist, Professor F. L. Washburn, has just published a brief illustrated account of the food fishes of the Oregon coast. The pamphlet includes brief descriptions of some dozen food fishes, accompanied by photographic and other illustrations, and marks a beginning in the systematic study of the food fishes of the state.

BOTANY.

Mrs. Dana's Wild Flowers.¹—Mrs. Dana's now well-known book owes its inspiration to an idea of Mr. Burroughs', that some day a book would appear by which our wild flowers should be made known without the trouble of analyzing them; and his suggestion of color and season as the leading means of attaining this seemingly desirable end has been faithfully worked out in it. Seven years have elapsed since the first edition appeared, and the fact that the edition now under review marks the issuance of the fifty-sixth thousand shows that it has met with measurable favor. Opinions have differed as to its real value. People who love but do not know flowers, and who want to learn their names without trouble, have always liked it. People who believe that one might as well learn botany while learning the names of the commoner and more showy plants have not infrequently regretted its publication. While the present reviewer would not start a student of botany with it, he believes it to be a very good book of its kind and for persons who will not go at the study in more than a holiday spirit, and it is a delight to thumb its pages. It may be that the numerous colored plates which form the novel feature of the new edition add to the value of the book, and they certainly are well done for three-color work, and will add to its salability.

T.

Our Native Trees.²—Miss Keeler has made a very commendable addition to the semi-popular treatises on American plants, in a

¹ Dana, Mrs. W. S. *How to Know the Wild Flowers*. A Guide to the Names, Haunts, and Habits of our Common Wild Flowers. Illustrated by Marian Satterlee and Elsie Louise Shaw. New edition, with colored plates. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1900. 8vo, xxxix + 346 pp.

² Keeler, Harriet L. *On Native Trees and How to Identify Them*. A Popular Study of their Habits and their Peculiarities. New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1900. 8vo, xxiii + 533 pp., with 178 illustrations from photographs and 162 illustrations from drawings.

well-written, well-illustrated, and well-printed account of the native and naturalized trees of the "Manual" region. Bits of the best from poets and prose-writers relieve the monotony of description, and the folklore of a number of trees is well if briefly told. T.

Clements and Cutler's Manual.¹ — Dr. Bessey has long taken not only a theoretical but a very practical interest in secondary school training in the sciences, and the Nebraska high schools are reaching the point where their graduates can be said as a class to be better prepared for the real and serious study of botany for having had botany before entering college. Dr. Clements, of the University of Nebraska, and Mr. Cutler, of the Beatrice High School, have prepared this little book as an authoritative expression from the University upon the desirable kind and amount of such preparatory study. And while its use is likely to be limited to Nebraska, it may well find place in the working library of any high school. T.

Notes. — "The Plant Covering of Ocracoke Island," a study in the ecology of the North Carolina strand vegetation, by Thomas H. Kearney, Jr., constitutes No. 5 of the current volume of *Contributions from the United States National Herbarium*. It is illustrated by a number of figures in the text, representing structural adaptations.

A paper by R. M. Harper, on the flora of Sumter County, Georgia, appears in the *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club* for August. Ecological lists, of some four hundred or five hundred species, are followed by critical notes on a considerable number of the species.

A systematic key to the phanerogamic spring flora of Kansas City and vicinity has been prepared by Kenneth K. Mackenzie, for use in the high schools of that city, and is published as an octavo pamphlet of twenty-three pages.

In the *Botanical Gazette* for September, Professor Nelson begins a series of "Contributions from the Rocky Mountain Herbarium," consisting of descriptions and critical notes on species and varieties believed to be undescribed.

Part IV of Professor Piper's "New and Noteworthy Northwestern Plants," in the July *Bulletin of the Torrey Botanical Club*, contains a considerable number of new species, of various dicotyledonous groups.

¹ Clements, F. E., and Cutler, I. S. A Laboratory Manual of High School Botany. Lincoln, Nebraska, The University Publishing Company, 1900. 8vo, 123 pp.